

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 02146 181441Z

41

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OIC-02 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10

SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-02 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 INT-05 /106 W

----- 065706

R 181348Z MAY 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7548

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2146

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, PN, PQ, RQ, KS, KN

SUBJECT: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: GOVERNOR SCRANTON MEETS SRI

LANKA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AMERASINGHE

REF: STATE 109822

1. SUMMARY: SRI LANKA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AMERASINGHE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 02146 181441Z

HAS ASSURED GOVERNOR SCRANTON THAT HE WILL SEEK MODERATION ON

PUERTO RICO, THE PANAMA CANAL, AND KOREA AT NONALIGNED SUMMIT
THIS AUGUST IN COLOMBO. END SUMMARY

2. GOVERNOR SCRANTON AT HIS OWN REQUEST MET SRI LANKA'S AMBASSADOR AMERASINGHE AT UN ON MAY 13. SCRANTON STRESSED TO AMERASINGHE OUR DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION ON PUERTO RICO, THE PANAMA CANAL, AND KOREA. MAKING POINTS OUTLINED IN REFTEL, SCRANTON SOUGHT AMERASINGHE'S HELP IN DAMPENING PROSPECTS FOR CONFRONTATION.

3. AMERASHINGHE'S RESPONSE WAS CANDID AND FRIENDLY. HE STRESSED HIS INTENTION TO AVOID CONFRONTATION AT NONALIGNED SUMMIT IN COLOMBO ON PUERTO RICO, THE PANAMA CANAL, AND KOREA. AMERASINGHE COMMENTED THAT STRONGLY WORDED RESOLUTIONS USUALLY DAMAGE THE CAUSE THEY SEEK TO SERVE. HE ADDED THAT MANY OF NONALIGNED DO NOT WANT NONALIGNED MOVEMENT TO BECOME EXTREMIST. HE SINGLED OUT ALGERIA AND CUBA AS BELLOCOSE EXTREMISTS WHO ARE SEPARATING THEMSELVES FROM THE BULK OF NONALIGNED BY THEIR POSITIONS.

4. AMERASINGHE SAID THAT PUERTO RICO IS AN INTERNAL U.S. MATTER. NEITHER SRI LANKA NOR MANY OF THE OTHER NONALIGNED COUNTRIES WANT PUERTO RICO A SUBEJCT OF DEBATE AT COLOMBO OR IN UNGA. HE FEARED THOUGH THAT I WOULD ARISE IN COLOMBO, GIVEN CUBAN AND ALGERIAN POSITIONS. AMERASINGHE CONTINUED THAT PUERTO RICO ILLUSTRATES THE CRITICAL POINT NONALIGNED MOVEMENT HAS REACHED IF THE MOVEMENT IS TO RETAIN ITS INTEGRITY AS A NON-EXTREMIST BODY. HE EMPHASIZED HIS INTENTION TO BLUNT OR DEFEAT ANY EFFORTS TO RAISE PUERTO RICO AS AN ISSUE.

5. AMERASINGHE AGREED THAT COMMENDABLE PROGRESS WAS BEING MADE BY U.S. AND PANAMA IN THEIR CANAL NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAW NO VALUE IN EXTREMIST STATEMENTS BY NONALIGNED WHICH WOULD INFLAME POLITICAL PASSIONS IN U.S. AND PANAMA. NOTHING SHOULD INHIBIT U.S. - PANAMA NEGOTIATIONS UNDERWAY. AMERASINGHE DID NOT SENSE MUCH SENTIMENT WITHIN NONALIGNED TO AGGRAVATE CANAL TREATY SITUATION. HE INVITED SCRANTON TO PROVIDE REPORTS ON THE NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WOULD HELP KEEP THE CANAL ISSUE QUIET.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 02146 181441Z

6. AMERASINGHE WAS DIRECT AND FORTHRIGHT ON KOREA. IN BITING WORDS, HE CHARACTERIZED THE NORTH KOREANS AS A "PAIN IN THE BACKSIDE" AT THE UN, EVEN TO THE ALGERIANS AND CUBANS. HE DESCRIBED NORTH KOREANS AS " CLUMSY AND IRRITATING . " HE FELT THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE SENTIMENT NOT TO LET NORTH KOREA AND ITS BACKERS GET AWAY WITH EXTREMISTS RESOLUTIONS AT COLOMBO OR IN FORTHCOMING UNGA. AMERASINGHE SAID HE WAS DETERMINED TO PREVENT EXTREMISTS FROM RUNNING THE SHOW. "THEY WILL NOT GET

AWAY WITH WHAT THEY WANT," HE PREDICTED. AMERASINGHE FELT IT WOULD BE NECESSARY EVENTUALLY TO GET UN COMMAND OUT OF KOREA. HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE OBSTACLES, AND FOR THE MOMENT SAW NO REAL SOLUTION TO KOREA PROBLEM.

SCRANTON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN02146
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760192-0538
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760539/aaaabhrf.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 109822
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <15 SEP 2004 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS: GOVERNOR SCRANTON MEETS SRI LANKA'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AMERASINGHE
TAGS: PFOR, PORG, PN, PQ, RQ, KS, KN, CE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006